

ABSTRACT

An apparatus is for purifying exhaust gases, and includes an HC adsorption-purifying catalyst and a three-way catalyst. The HC adsorption-purifying catalyst includes an HC adsorbent, and an oxidizing catalyst. The three-way catalyst is disposed on an upstream side of the flow of exhaust gases with respect to the HC adsorption-purifying catalyst, wherein a noble metal is loaded higher on a high loading portion disposed on an upstream part of the three-way catalyst than on an ordinary part of the three-way catalyst. The apparatus shows the actions of the three-way catalyst and the actions of the HC adsorption-purifying catalyst synergistically, and accordingly can remarkably inhibit the HC emission even in low-temperature regions such as when engines are started.